

REVIEWS OF BOOKS.

DISEASES OF THE NERVOUS SYSTEM. By JEROME K. BANDREV, M. D., LL.D. [St. Louis]. J. B. Lippincott & Co., Phila., 1892.

Were this the first edition of a work purporting to treat of modern neurology, one might well be at a loss whether to take it seriously. But as it was first published in 1876, even though now "entirely rewritten," nothing remains but to assume that this semblance of erudition is put forth in earnest. Niemeyer, Schraeder, van der Volk, Aitken, Elam, and other antiquies, even though of distinguished memory, do not represent the authorities from which a general work in this field can properly make extensive quotations.

Nearly a quarter of the volume is devoted to the subject of anaemia and hyperaemia of the brain; feebly suggesting Hammond's well-known speculations on this matter. Next follows eighty-one pages on the various forms of meningitis. This, with four pages on meningeal hemorrhage, completes the subject of brain disease proper so far as this volume is concerned. The remainder of the book—about one-half—is devoted to insanity, especially in its medico-legal relations. To this part may be accorded the doubtful praise that it also is essentially a compilation.

Ergot and buckthorn are his most frequent resorts therapeutically both in brain and mental disease.

There are no illustrations, but the paper and printing are excellent.

A second volume is promised to "discuss diseases of the brain and spinal cord, and functional and peripheral diseases of the nervous system."

WILLIAM BROWNING.

ANLEITUNG ZUR ASEPTISCHEN WUNDBEHANDLUNG. Von DR. C.

SCHIMMELBUSCH, Assistent Arzt der K. Chirurgischen Universitätsklinik des Geh.-Rath v. Bergmann in Berlin. 12mo, 199 pp. Berlin, Hirschwald, 1892. (INTRODUCTION TO THE ANTI-SEPTIC TREATMENT OF WOUNDS. By C. SCHIMMELBUSCH.)

This little manual is the outcome of the exhibit made during the last International Congress at the University Clinic in Berlin. Such widespread interest in the means and methods resorted to by Bergmann and his assistants was manifested that an elaborate description, with a running commentary, was prepared by its author in response to a general request. As it is now presented to us we have not merely a stilted or formal description of instruments, but an epitome of the reasons why the aseptic era has supplanted the antiseptic age and such terse and excellent rules for carrying out its principles that there is no excuse for anyone who may fall short of its realization.

After showing that absolute asepsis nearly does away with the bugbear of age and diathetic conditions as favoring infection, and a brief tribute to Joseph Lister, he proceeds to show, when speaking of air and contact infection, that it is not now so much the air that we distrust as organic material of the soil, etc., that germs only float when dry, and that these only do harm when they settle upon moist soil, and that the atmospheric germs are rarely pathogenic.

Next is set forth that wound infection is first local, and that sufficient protection ensures safety. Such protection is afforded, at one time, or another p. r. n., by one or more of the following; mechanical measures for removal (soap, brushes, etc.), germicides, antidotes to bacterial poisons, sterilization of everything that comes in contact with the parts, and such fortification of the system as tonics, and stimulants may afford. A very complete summary of germicidal substances and methods is added to this chapter. Then follow rules for caring for the patient, preparing the part to be operated on, cleansing the hands, the instruments (boiling in a soda solution being most highly commended for this purpose), sterilization of the dressings, for which live steam appears to answer best, and of the sponges or their substitutes, suture and ligature material, and selection of

drains and ensuring their efficiency. A short chapter details the precautions to be observed in injection and puncture, and we are reminded that tuberculosis has been inoculated at least twice as the result of carelessness in this regard. Another chapter gives instructions as to the aseptic preservation and use of catheters and bougies. Then follow remarks on water from ordinary sources, the safety with which it may be used in surgery, its proper sterilization, directions for the preparation of the operating room either in a hospital or in a private residence, directions for dressing wounds, and when and how to change the dressings, with, lastly, some hints on treating emergency cases upon the same safe general principles.

All in all the manual is an excellent one and deserves translation, for it should be in the hands of every one who does any surgery. It is illustrated with a number of designs of apparatus intended mainly for sterilization, for which American ingenuity could easily substitute better and cheaper forms. Indeed, let an American practitioner but once realize the necessity for exactitude and plenitude of such precaution and he can find in almost any home some means for doing what is necessary; can at least provide it for himself. In other words once the object is fully appreciated the means may be in some measure adapted to the surroundings. Nevertheless every institution should be fully provided with some such apparatus as Schimmelbusch has described.

ROSWELL PARK.

TREATISE ON MEDICAL AND SURGICAL GYNECOLOGY. By S. Pozzi, M. D., Paris. Complete in Two Volumes. Translated from the French edition under the supervision of, and with additions by BROOKS H. WELLS, M. D. Volume II. Royal octavo. William Wood & Co., 1892.

Volume II. treats of the diseases of the uterine adnexa; genital tuberculosis; intra and extra peritoneal pelvic haematocle; extra uterine pregnancy; diseases of the vagina and vulva; malformations of the genital organs, and diseases of the urinary tract and diseases of the rectum and pelvis by Anvord.

Salpingitis is divided into cystic and non-cystic forms according to whether they terminate or not in an encysted tumor, this with the subdivisions make a most complete and comprehensive classification. The term tubo-ovoretic or iophoro-salpingitis are used interchangably with ovoritis or salpingitis, as one is believed not to exist without the other at some time, and inflammatory conditions of the uterus are considered the chief causes of inflammatory diseases of the appendages, it being conveyed by means of the continuity of the mucous tissues; and if a catarrhal endometritis exist for any length of time the tubes will always be effected. The causes are classified under gonorrhœal, puerperal, infection and contamination from manual or instrumental interference. In the treatment of the non-cystic variety a very commendable conservative plan is outlined, and exploratory laparotomy never being done for simple persistant pain in the region of the tubes, and in all cases of non-purulent inflammation a course of at least six months should proceed an abdominal section. The removal of both the tube and ovary is insisted upon, even if the ovary is not affected. The work of Polk and Mündé of treating the tubes by operation, but without removal in suitable cases, is commended. The removal of the appendages being reserved for 1st ovoritis and salpingitis where there is reason to suspect the presence of pus, and 2d, painful sclero-cystic ovoritis, and 3d, chronic parenchymatous salpingitis when in spite of the lesions apparently being slight, grave symptoms are a sequence.

In chapter III. devoted to cystic oophoro-salpingitis naturally chief attention is given to pyosalpinx, but the symptoms of hydro-salpinx and haemato-salpinx are detailed together, the clinical picture of all being so similar.

The sudden discharge of pus from the uterus at irregular intervals, the author thinks, has been given too much importance as a means of diagnosis of pyo-salpinx, the discharge often coming from the cavity of the uterus from co-existing disease in the mucous membrane. The differential diagnosis being made largely from the history of the case as to whether it is gonorrhœal in origin and whether it is bilateral or unilateral. The diagnosis from tubal pregnancy in the first stages is considered almost impossible to make with

certainty, the only diagnostic symptoms being enlargement of the uterus with discharge of decidual membrane. As soon as a diagnosis of a cyst of the tube is established, no treatment is advised, but removal at once, or as soon as the patient is thought to be in as favorable a condition as possible for an operation. The removal of the second ovary is not advised unless it is diseased.

In chapter IV. the term *perimetro-salpingitis* is used to cover the conditions formerly known as *parametritis*, *perimetritis*, *pelvic inflammation*, etc., etc.

The author very strongly endorses the *etiological theory of Aran*, believing that nearly all these inflammatory conditions are some form of tubal disease having their starting point in a diseased uterine mucosa. Four varieties are described: First, serous *perimetro-salpingitis*; second, *pelvic abscess*; third, *phlegmon of the broad ligament*, and fourth, *diffuse pelvic cellulitis*. The term *pelvic abscess* is reserved for collections of pus that cannot be enucleated, starting in a septic lymphangitis from a uterine wound, continuing to a general inflammation of the cellular tissue (*pelvic cellulitis*), which may resolve or which may go on to suppuration (*pelvic abscess*).

The treatment for *perimetro-salpingitis* is largely the same as for *salpingitis*, or in other words, remove the cause.

In *pelvic abscess* and *abscess of the broad ligament* prolonged hot douches with rest in bed, and as soon as pus forms evacuate it in all cases, the channel depending on each individual case, the rectum being avoided if possible, *perineotomy* being preferred if necessary. In case *laparotomy* is done the *abscess cavity* is always aspirated and if possible the neck drawn up and stitched to the abdominal wound.

Chapter V., *Pathological Anatomy of Ovarian Cysts*.—From the clinical standpoint they are divided into solid and cystic tumors. Cysts are divided into large and small, and under the former proliferous or glandular proliferous; *dermoid*, simple or mixed and *parovarian* of several varieties, and under the latter small residual cysts, *follicular*, and cysts of the *corpus luteum*.

The different pathological views are discussed at length, but the author concludes that in the case of *papillary* and *glandular* cysts they take their origin in the *germinating epithelium*, but dare not attempt

to justify this conclusion. The impaction theory for the formation of dermoid cysts is considered the most satisfactory, though not entirely so "according to this view, during intra-uterine existence certain portions of the blastoderm become impacted by pressure within the tissue and develop them later, giving rise to an irregular formation of the normal tissues."

Chapter VI., Aetiology, Symptoms, Course and Diagnosis of Ovarian Cysts.—The physical signs are divided into two classes: first, a pelvic stage, and second, an abdominal stage. The diagnosis and prognosis are carefully considered, especial attention being given to the diagnosis. The author looks upon an exploratory incision as a safer as well as a more satisfactory means of diagnosis and advises it in all cases of doubt as a rule.

Under treatment of ovarian cysts the author starts out with the statement in the first paragraph that "every ovarian cyst, should, if possible, be removed," and follows with the palliative means when removal is impossible, as puncture through the abdominal wall; injection of iodine and drainage after puncture or incision.

The consideration of ovariotomy commences with a short historical sketch of the operation and follows with a very clear and concise description of the different steps of the operation complicated only by adhesions. The operation is divided into four stages; first, abdominal incision; second, rupture of adhesions; third, extraction of the cyst and ligation of the pedicle; fourth, the toilet of the peritoneum and closure of the abdomen. The author in all cases uses compresses of gauze instead of sponges. Necessarily there is not much new under the technique of the operation, under treatment the statement is made that the catheter should be passed every three hours for at least two days; some food and cracked ice is allowed the first twenty-four hours; the use of opium is condemned and for prognosis the pulse is depended on rather than the temperature.

A careful account of the after effects of ovariotomy is given, especial mention being made of insanity and melancholia.

If a cyst is complicated by pregnancy, the author strongly advises its removal if possible before the fifth month of gestation.

In chapter VIII, are considered the solid tumors of the ovary, fibroma, sarcoma and epithelioma and carcinoma, all of which are rare and the differential diagnosis hard to make, exploratory incision and removal if possible is the only course to follow.

Under the consideration of genital and peritoneal tuberculosis the fallopian tubes are given as the usual starting point and from them the disease is transmitted to the ovaries and peritoneum. As to when the tubercle bacillus gains entrance to the female genitals, the author states that it can undoubtedly occur from cohabitation with a person suffering from genital tuberculosis, through the semen, but gives no positive opinion as to how it occurs when pulmonary tuberculosis exists. Secondary tuberculosis of the genitals is more common and may occur either by transmission through the lymph or blood or by contamination of the genitals by the patient herself.

The treatment of tubercular disease of the cervix in advanced cases of phthisis, the author states should be only palliative, but in all other cases energetic and advises hysterectomy for even a circumscribed ulceration if there is no doubt of the diagnosis. The varieties of tubercular disease of the body of the uterus are mentioned, the third or ulcerative being most common and of most importance.

The translator adds a very interesting chapter on tubercular peritonitis.

Intra and extra peritoneal haematocele; without denying any of the causes given by the various writers of the intra-peritoneal-variety, the author believes that in the great majority of cases it starts from diseased tubes, some variety of salpingitis or tubal pregnancy and denies the name to pelvic hemorrhage due to constitutional conditions, as scorbutis, icterus, etc.

Conservative treatment is advised unless some grave symptoms supervene, and then opening through the vagina is preferred to abdominal section unless the case be one of ruptured tubal pregnancy.

The subject of ectopic gestation is considered in a very systematic and complete manner. It is divided as to symptoms, diagnosis, prognosis and treatment, according to the stage of development. While the author believes with most recent writers that nearly all

cases are tubal, at least in origin, he does not deny the occasional occurrence of the other varieties.

The different methods of treatment are considered, but a strong preference for removal by laparotomy in all cases is expressed. In cases going beyond the fifth month, the child still living, the first two weeks of the ninth month is the time preferred for operation. In cases after the fifth month, the child recently dead, preference is given to the primary operation rather than waiting for the spontaneous elimination of the foetus, or the formation of an noxious lithopaedion.

Chapter VIII considers the different varieties of vaginitis, with especial attention to that of gonorrhœal origin in the matter of diagnosis and treatment, but nothing unusual is said.

In treating of cysts of the vagina the author denies the proof of the existence of "Skene's glands"; this hardly seems possible in the light of Dr. Skene's careful and undoubted demonstration of them. For the removal of vaginal cysts the partial method is preferred to the complete when they are located in the upper third of the vaginal wall.

In treating of vesico-vaginal fistulae the author at first admits some credit to Sims and Bozeman, but in a later paragraph retracts it by referring to their work as a period of renaissance of the suture, the old operation of Von Roonhuysen. Bozeman is given credit for his gradual preparatory treatment by dilatation, but no mention is made of Emmet's method of dealing with cicatricial bands. In fact the great work of Emmet is hardly mentioned in connection with this subject, but this only follows out the policy of the author in claiming every thing for the French surgeon. Silver wire or silk worm gut is preferred to silk or catgut for sutures.

Laceration of the perineum so far as the repair goes is treated in full, a detailed account of the different methods of operating by different authors being given. The chapter opens with the surprising statement unmodified that "The perineum is a resistant fibro-muscular floor which closes in the abdominal cavity and supports the weight of the contained viscera."

The translator interposes a rather meagre and imperfect description of Emmet's operations, especially so in regard to the introduction of the sutures in the angles of the tear.

In the choice of methods the author seems to depend more upon the rapidity and simplicity of the operation than its applicability and to the especial tear in the ease to be operated upon and for this reason favors the method of Lawson Tait. It seems to us that nothing could be more fallacious than to think that any one form of denudation or method of introduction of suture will meet the indications in all cases without regard to the different lesions in the so-called lacerations of the perineum.

The diseases of the vagina and vulva are considered at some length as is also the malformation of the vestibule. The volume is made complete by the chapters on diseases of the urinary tract, and of the rectum and pelvis taken from Anvard's recent work.

Viewed as a whole the work is a most excellent one and will well repay a careful reading by every gynaecologist.

L. C. B.

abdomen and punctures with fine needles do not bring about a speedy cure, B. recommends laparotomy. If even then reposition into the normal position does not readily succeed, it is very simple (and sufficient in many cases), to pass a tube into the rectum as high as possible for the evacuation of gases and liquid fecal masses, and, eventually to scrape out the rectum, the abdomen having been opened. Incisions into the intestines with subsequent intestinal suture will be necessary in but few cases. Reposition having been accomplished, the reappearance must be prevented. Braun sewed the upper half of the sigmoid flexure of the colon to the left lateral abdominal wall, to an extent of 6 cm., with eight silk sutures in one case. Whenever the twisted piece has become gangrenous, it should, of course, be resected. It depends on each individual case, whether, after resection, a direct union of the two intestinal ends should be undertaken, or rather, Senn's enterostomosis, or the formation of an artificial anus.—*Wiener Med. Woch.*, No. 27, July 2.

SAMUEL LLOYD (New York).

REVIEWS OF BOOKS.

AGE OF THE DOMESTIC ANIMALS. By RUSH SHIPPEN HUIDEKOPER, M. D. Complete in one volume of 217 pages, with 200 engravings. F. A. Davis, Philadelphia, 1892.

The author of this work although a regular graduate in medicine is evidently devoting at least the greater portion of his time to the study of domestic animals.

In a book well supplied with many full-paged illustrations he has produced a most interesting and instructive treatise on the dentition of the horse, ox, sheep, hog and dog. He approaches the subject with that boldness and minute attention to detail which one would expect from a person having his large field and the power of accurate observation and description. He feels that in preparing such a book he is supplying for the student and all others interested in domestic animals, something which up to the present time has been more or less neglected, at least in our own language. As a student himself he felt the need of just such a work, and the present volume is his attempt at supplying it. His ambition is certainly worthy and the result of his labor most satisfactory. Being one of the editors of a monthly journal devoted to the interests of the veterinarian, he naturally has kept himself abreast of his profession, and this is shown by the care and minuteness with which he has arranged the material at his command. One cannot regret that in a volume of 217 pages considerable more than half of it is devoted to the horse.

After a somewhat lengthy introduction, in which there is given a careful definition of age and its various periods, the author approaches the teeth of a horse, a consideration of which is to form the principal material of the book. His arrangement of the subject embraces no

fewer than nine chapters with a tenth one upon the various irregularities of dentition. He divides the age of the horse into three periods: First, the juvenile or period of growth, which extends from birth to the animal's full development; second, the adult or stationary period, during which the animal is at his best; third, the period of senility or old age. Under these headings considerable attention is given to the results produced upon the horse by overwork, improper feeding and unhealthy surroundings, and the effects these have in changing the general appearance of the teeth and causing an early decline. He divides the teeth into three varieties, the incisors, tusks and molars, and gives quite a minute anatomical description of each, beginning with the primary or temporary set and ending with those which are to become permanent. This division of the book embraces five chapters or periods, beginning with the first eruption of teeth soon after birth and follows their development, decay and replacement by new ones, and then the gradual wearing away of the crowns of this set as the animal passes from the period of adult life to that of senility. The only criticism that can be made here is that if anything, the subject is treated too minutely except for a student or one unusually well informed. After reading the book it is doubtful if the average admirer of the horse would feel any more confidence in himself if called upon to decide alone any special point as to a horse's age.

Under the heading, "Duration of Life of the Horse" there is found interesting reading concerning the principles of examination for determining the age and also the characters furnished by the teeth.

Irregularities of Dentition supply quite an exhaustive chapter the latter part of which is devoted to the effects upon the teeth produced by *cribbing* and closes by giving an account of artificial irregularities the results of a most vicious practice employed by the lower class of horse-dealers. Among the latter evils he mentions "Dressed Mouths," "Bishoping" and the removal of temporary incisors in order to age the horse. The balance of the volume is devoted to a consideration of the other domestic animals already mentioned and in which he follows the same general plan as for the horse although much more briefly.

The book as a whole is conveniently arranged, profusely illustrated and as a work for reference and general reading will commend itself to every sincere admirer of the domestic animals.

FRANK WHITFIELD SHAW, M. D.

ESSENTIALS OF MEDICAL DIAGNOSIS. By SOLOMON SOLIS-COHEN, M. D. and AUGUSTUS A. ESHNER, M. D. W. B. Saunders, Philadelphia, 1892.

ESSENTIALS OF MEDICAL PHYSICS. By FRED. J. BROCKWAY, M. D. W. B. Saunders, Philadelphia, 1892.

After reading the preface to the above books one feels himself quite disarmed in any effort to offer serious criticisms. The books have been prepared principally as aids to the medical student and in neither of them has there been any attempt at completeness. Both authors admit this to be true and advise careful attention to more elaborate works upon the subjects treated. By not losing sight of this fact the books immediately become valuable, the Medical Diagnosis particularly. The matter is fairly well classified, presents a wide-range of subjects and shows in its results an attempt to recognize new terms and the more advanced medical nomenclature. In one respect it offers the same fault that is seen in works of a much more ambitious nature. In some of its descriptions of chemical tests and technical methods there is a carelessness displayed which robs the book of some of its usefulness. The answers here given are too general and indefinite in character and while probably they would be accepted by the college examiner as indicating a knowledge of the subject, there is wanting that clearness which would make the book a valuable every-day assistant to a thoughtful and working student.

With this fault corrected the book becomes of interest not only to the student but to the general practitioner. It is a constant reminder of terms perhaps forgotten and where classical material is not abundant it helps to fix many points which are of great assistance in differential diagnosis.

Medical Physics is also a book arranged with questions and answers. It reminds one of the old New York University days when

Doctor Draper was accustomed to quiz the students in a similar manner from his well-known note book. There was considerable knowledge imparted during those years upon a subject usually considered burdensome to a medical student and the same will also be true in the case of every one who studies this book.

Both volumes are issued in a style uniform with the publisher's other question compends and it can be truthfully said that they fulfil the purposes for which they are intended.

FRANK WHITFIELD SHAW, M. D.

ON THE TREATMENT OF FLAT-FOOT.¹

By WALTER C. WOOD, M. D.,

OF BROOKLYN.

ASSISTANT SURGEON TO ST. MARY'S HOSPITAL.

THERE seems to be a difference of opinion in the profession concerning the prognosis in a case of confirmed flat-foot. Some surgeons, assuming that a perfect functional result is beyond the limits of treatment, are satisfied if they succeed in relieving the most distressing symptoms. Others write confidentially of a "radical cure."

It is doubtless due to the frequent occurrence and crippling effects of flat-foot, and unfortunately to the present unsuccessful management of many a case, that we still possess such a multitude of therapeutic measures. In my endeavor to point out some of the indications and limitations of certain more or less familiar procedures, I am guided chiefly by personal observation of the work of others. Inasmuch as my experience in the strictly operative treatment of this affection is meager, perhaps I shall be considered as not giving due credit to the knife.

Although it is quite foreign to my purpose to deal with the pathology of this interesting condition, I desire to emphasize *three* features that seem of special importance in a rational consideration of treatment. First, that we have at the medio-tarsal joint a simple partial dislocation, and not a unique condition occurring nowhere else. We find the anterior surfaces of the os-calcis and astragalus displaced downward and inward; the astragalus to a greater degree owing to a tilting of these two bones from the abnormal direction of the transmitted weight. The posterior surface of the scaphoid and the cuboid are likewise displaced downward and inward. The ligaments are stretched, especially

¹Read before the Brooklyn Surgical Society, September, 1892.

REVIEWS OF BOOKS.

AN AMERICAN TEXT-BOOK OF SURGERY FOR PRACTITIONERS AND STUDENTS. By CHARLES H. BURNETT, M.D., PHINEAS S. CONNER, M.D., FREDERIC S. DENNIS, M.D., WILLIAM W. KEEN, M.D., CHARLES B. NANCREDE, M.D., ROSWELL PARK, M.D., LEWIS S. PILCHER, M.D., NICHOLAS SENN, M.D., FRANCIS SHEPHERD, M.D., LEWIS A. STINSON, M.D., WILLIAM THOMSON, M.D., J. COLLINS WARREN, M.D., and J. WILLIAM WHITE, M.D. Edited by WILLIAM W. KEEN, M.D., LL.D., and J. WILLIAM WHITE, M.D., Ph.D. Philadelphia, W. B. Saunders, 1892.

The preface of this large and handsome work opens with the statement that "The great advances which have been made in the Science and Art of Surgery within the last few years have created a need for new sources of reference, both for the student and the practitioner—a need which has been met to some extent abroad, but not so thoroughly in this country." The method employed in endeavoring to supply this need by this text-book is peculiar. Each subject was assigned to one of the large number of eminent men whose names appear on the title-page (all especially well qualified to know what the needs of the student are by practical experience in teaching), and then the entire work was submitted in proof-sheets to all the joint authors for criticism and revision. The editors are only responsible for the general plan of the book, the orthography, etc., but both are also among the authors. As the preface states, "the book may therefore be said to express upon important surgical topics the consensus of opinion of the surgeons who have joined in its preparation, although it must be understood that, while it thus represents in general the views of all the authors, each individual author is free

from absolute responsibility for any particular statement. Minor differences in opinion necessarily exist, and are recognized in the text."¹

This peculiar method has its advantages and its disadvantages. The chief advantage lies in the fact that the book represents the prevailing opinion among several first-class men, rather than the independent views of any individual, and that is something especially desirable in a text-book, for students should rather be taught generally accepted doctrines, than new or peculiar views, no matter how clever or original they may be. Another great advantage consists in the division of labor which renders it easy to produce a work which is fully abreast of the times in all its departments—an impossible task for any individual in these days of rapid advance and constant change of front owing to the new discoveries being made in all directions.

The principal disadvantage of the method is a decided impairment in literary quality, a certain unevenness in the execution of the different sections, and a considerable loss of interest owing to the failure of individualization in the views set forth—for only in a few places does the reader actually feel the influence of the writer's personality. These, however, are not very serious defects in a work of this kind, and on the whole the book fulfils the wish of its authors to supply a comprehensive and thoroughly modern text-book of surgery.

The book opens with a capital chapter on surgical bacteriology, a knowledge of which now forms the first layer of the foundation of an education in surgery, and it is illustrated with excellent colored plates. A chapter on inflammation follows, giving a conservative description of the modern views of the influence of bacteria in its etiology. The next chapter gives a clear account of the process of repair in wounds with a good description of healing under the moist blood-clot, and of karyokinesis, but the changes which take place in repairing a broken bone are not fully enough described, either here or in the section on fractures, and there is not a single diagram to illustrate the repair of this, one of the most important of all injuries for the student to understand. The description of the method of occlusion of divided arteries is rather antiquated for it does not dwell sufficiently on the importance of the endothelial new growth in securing obliteration.

"Wound diseases," are well handled. The fact that the treatment of tetanus by Tizzoni's antitoxine is mentioned, is one of the many evidences the reader meets with, of the watchfulness with which the newer discoveries of our science have been recognized in this book. At the same time we must note the omission of all reference to the peculiar form of tetanus with facial paralysis ("Kopftetanus") which is by no means unknown in America. Anthrax, hydrophobia (Pasteur's preventive inoculations are approved), glanders, and actinomycosis are fully treated of, and a very complete description of all the lesions of syphilis follows. White's name among the authors is a guarantee of the excellency of this last section.

The chapter on tumors opens with a clear classification of their varieties and then takes up each sort in turn, giving a concise description of their structure, seats of predilection, diagnosis and treatment. The section on diseases and injuries of the blood-vessels hardly reaches the general high standard of the book. On page 237 it is stated that the treatment of aneurism by compression is more likely to result in permanent cure than that by ligation, in spite of the fact that modern surgeons tend to more rather than less vigorous methods in the treatment of aneurism. Certainly modern surgeons do not see "suppuration of the sac," or "a second aneurism form at the sight of ligation"—those dangers belong to the pre-antiseptic era. The modern revival of the method of extirpation of aneurism is hardly given due consideration, and the use of the suture in closing lateral wounds of veins is not mentioned. The usefulness of the infusion of salt solution is not sufficiently recognized, and the antiquated method of transfusion of blood is still countenanced.

The chapter on bone diseases is in one sense very complete, for there is not a single point which is not touched upon, periostitis albuminosa being described, and every possible method of dealing with the cavity left after sequestrectomy being enumerated, but in the matter of treatment the chapter has suffered from too rigorous compression, and this is unfortunate in a subject which is so important for students, while so many pages are devoted to operations upon the stomach, brain, etc. With such an authority as Stimson among the authors of the work, it is needless to say that the sections on fractures

and dislocation are perfect, and they are really wonderful in their completeness and conciseness, as well as for the excellent illustrations.

In the chapter on joint diseases, all the rest are well handled, but the section on tubercular arthritis is far from good, for not a single splint or apparatus is figured or described, and there is no proper consideration of one of the most important of the symptoms of tuberculous joint-disease, muscular spasm—merely passing allusions to “rigidity,” “muscular contraction,” and “tense tendons.” Yet the modern treatment by iodoform injections is fully discussed, and the indications for the choice of operative or mechanical treatment in any case are excellently given—with the single oversight of not mentioning the importance of the patient's age in deciding this point.

The title of chapter X. must surely be a proof-reader's blunder, and instead of “Surgical Diseases of the Skin and its Appendages,” should read, “Surgical Diseases of the Skin, etc.,,” for burns, lightning stroke, and dengue could not have been intentionally included under the former heading.

The department on regional surgery opens with a chapter on the surgery of the brain, perhaps the best in the book. It shows a more generous use of space than the rest, and is strongly marked by the individuality of its unknown author, making such fascinating reading that one is not tempted to ask too persistently why students should be instructed in all the details of the surgery of the brain. It is needless to say that everything is brought down to the present time, and yet with a judgment which rejects whatever is of doubtful utility. The chapter on the surgery of the spine is also excellent, very complete and thoroughly modern.

In treating of punctured and gunshot penetrating wounds of the abdomen, the authors say “Clinical experience and the result of experiment show conclusively that laparotomy should not be performed simply because a bullet or knife-blade has entered the abdominal cavity, but that its performance should be limited to the treatment of the intra-abdominal lesions, which without operative interference would tend to destroy life.” To many surgeons this advice will seem very conservative, and it certainly is disheartening when taken in

conjunction with a sentence on the next page (677), "With the exception of the last-mentioned symptom [the escape of visceral contents from the external wound] and the indication pointing to the necessity of arresting internal hemorrhage, there is nothing about the local or general symptoms in cases of penetrating wounds of the abdomen which would enable the surgeon to decide with any degree of positiveness whether visceral lesions existed or not, and consequently, whether laparotomy should or should not be performed." It is somewhat curious that there is no hint of the fact that, when symptoms of visceral injury declare themselves by the beginning of peritonitis, it is almost invariably too late to save the patient by operation.

The description of the local symptoms in these cases, and the estimate of their value is capital. Remembering that Senn is one of the joint authors, it is with great interest that we read the following paragraph on the use of the hydrogen-gas test in such cases: "The use of hydrogen, while it has failed in a few cases, and in others has made the return of the bowels into the abdominal cavity more difficult, is, nevertheless, occasionally a valuable addition to our means of diagnosis and treatment. Many, perhaps the majority of, surgeons, however, hold that the difficulties and possible dangers it creates more than offset its apparent advantages." These Macchiavellian sentences illustrate some of the difficulties which hedge about a book constructed on the plan of combined authorship adopted here. An important error, doubtless typographical, occurs on page 692, where it is stated that in closing a wound in the stomach "about four sutures to the inch will be required"—of course it should be eight sutures. Intestinal obstruction is well treated and not a single expedient which the surgeon could employ for its relief has been omitted. In appendicitis the use of the exploring needle before the abdomen has been opened is rightly condemned. The sound advice is given to leave the appendix if it can not be easily removed from the abscess cavity, for fear of separating adhesions. It is to be regretted that some attempt was not made to specify the indications for operation in this condition, and the symptoms which render delay dangerous, difficult as it is to lay down any rules for these cases.

The indications for attempting the radical cure of hernia by operation are given wisely and clearly, and all the important methods are well and briefly described. Diseases of the urinary organs are adequately considered. So also are those of the male genitals, with the single exception of the far too brief account of tubercular disease of the testicle. The diseases of the female generative organs are treated with a completeness which deserves especial approval, for this field has been far too easily and completely deserted by the general surgeon to the gynecologist. An excellent chapter on the diseases of the breast follows, illustrated with capital pictures of the clinical appearances of all the important varieties of tumors of that organ.

Chapters on the eye and on the ear, containing all that the student requires in these departments from the surgical standpoint, close this part of the book, and we come to the final section on operative and minor surgery, which are excellent in their way. The chapter on amputation deserves particular notice for the sound eclecticism which prevails in the choice of the methods and modifications described, and yet none of great usefulness, are omitted. A good chapter on artificial limbs follows, a subject too often neglected in surgical text-books.

The typography and illustrations of this fine work call for the greatest praise, the broad page with its clear type making reading a pleasure, while the illustrations are really works of art, especially the large full-page plates VIII, XVIII and XXVI.

In closing one can only repeat what was said at the beginning—that the authors have supplied a text-book which treats of the whole subject of surgery from the modern standpoint with a thoroughness and success which is remarkable. The flaws which have been noticed are readily overlooked in the presence of the excellence manifest on every page.

B. FARQUHAR CURTIS.

REGIONAL ANATOMY IN ITS RELATION TO MEDICINE AND SURGERY.

By GEORGE McCLELLAN, M. D. Volume II. Colored plates.
Philadelphia: J. P. Lippincott Company.

In this volume Dr. McClellan has completed his work in a manner leaving nothing to be retracted from the favorable notice given the *first* in the February number of this Journal. The plates are as well executed, and the explanatory text as clear and rendered as interesting by the many practical suggestions with which the author has favored his readers.

The desire for a scientific nomenclature is noticeable throughout this volume also. The term "Mons pubis," as applied, indiscriminately of sex, to the eminence of tissues over the symphysis, is certainly an improvement upon that of mons veneris in the female, and the hitherto unnamed, corresponding, structure in the male.

The most radical change of names in which the author has indulged has reference to the parts concerned in hernia. The *abdominal* and *femoral rings* he designates "openings," and the *transversalis*, as the "extra-peritoneal" fascia. The *abdominal rings* he distinguishes as the "superficial" and "deep" abdominal "openings." The reasons alleged are hardly sufficient for rejecting the time honored names of these structures, especially when their surgical importance is considered. Anatomically speaking, the term "opening" is more objectionable than that of "rings;" neither do the adjectives "superficial" and "deep" indicate any better, if as well, as "external" and "internal" the relation of the abdominal rings to each other or to the contents of the cavity.

A few errors have crept into the text, such, for instance, as that the ilium forms less than *two-thirds*, instead of less than *two-fifths* of the acetabulum, and that the colon, upon the *right* side is the most favorable location for the operation for the establishment of an artificial anus. In making the bald statement that the ilio-hypogastric and ilio-inguinal nerves are purely sensory, it is doubtful whether it was intended to deny that the latter furnishes motor filaments to the internal oblique muscle. The remark that the portal vein conducts the blood to the liver for *purification* is not in accord with the sci-

tific character of the book. There are certain pathological reasons for considering the lobus Spigelii as distinct from and not a part of the right lobe of the liver, as stated. The assertion that *rotation* is very free in the lumbar region, can only be explained as an oversight.

It is the general excellence of the work, however, that renders this criticism possible.

The following quotations serve to illustrate the manner in which the author seeks to turn his observations to practical account.

"The twelfth ribs are rarely equally developed upon both sides, one or the other often being rudimentary. This is a fact which should not be overlooked, for the pleura is attached to the eleventh rib, and therefore, in operations upon the kidney, if it is desirable to enlarge the space by resection of the twelfth rib, there must be no mistake as to its identity."

Again:—"Observation made by the author upon the cadaver have demonstrated the manner in which the vesico-uterine fold of the peritoneum acts upon the body of the uterus. If the bladder is gradually distended while the bowel is empty, the fundus is raised until the organ assumes a decided anteflexion. This is probably aided by the lateral traction upon it of the round ligaments, which are rendered tense by the vesical wall being lifted up, like the cords of a balloon. In cases of acute retroflexion knowledge of this fact may sometimes be of service.

It is a mistake to suppose that the broad ligaments maintain the position of a vertical septum across the pelvic cavity in which the uterus is suspended. If they ever do it is only in the virgin state, for after the uterus has fulfilled its physiological function and the surrounding peritoneal ligamentous folds have been subjected to the strain involved by pregnancy and parturition the broad ligaments are relaxed, so that the uterus lies in a flaccid state between the rectum and the bladder. On account of this the various flexions and versions are apt to occur, but their occurrence does not always warrant the assumption that they require artificial support. There is usually too much meddling with this organ on account of some position which is considered incorrect, and the zealots practitioner might often do better if he would consider a little more closely the anatomical rela-

tions of the uterus instead of resorting to the use of a pessary. In very many cases where relief is thus obtained it is beyond doubt mainly through the wonderful connection between the hypogastric plexus of nerves and the imagination, for it is not a question of fitting the support to the uterus, but one of fitting the uterus to the support."

Dr. McClellan, in this volume, declares that there is no warrant for the operation of retrenching the round ligaments, opposes the operation of wiring the fragments in fractured patella, discourages any effort to obtain union of the fragments in intra-capsular fracture of the neck of the femur, favors open operations in preference to subcutaneous tenotomy for the correction of the various forms of talipes, condemns the use of instruments of small calibre in traversing the male urethra, except in the hands of experienced operators, and holds filiform bougies responsible for nine-tenths of the mortality in cases following their use. He bases his opinions upon personal experience and fortifies them by reference to the anatomical structure of the parts concerned.

The work complete in two volumes contains 97 plates and 786 pages of text. Its price is \$15.00, which though not excessive, when the form of its publication is considered, nevertheless places it in the class of high-priced books. This, it is to be feared, will limit its circulation and prevent a book of great practical value from reaching the very class which it is best calculated to benefit.

WILLIAM W. BROWNING.

FIRST AID IN ILLNESS AND INJURY. By JAMES E. PILCHER, M. D., U. S. A. 12mo. pp. 304. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons. 1892.

Among the books written for the guidance of the laity in the immediate treatment of medical and surgical emergencies this latest work is one of the best. Indeed among many examined by the reviewer there is none which contains so large an amount of accurate knowledge so clearly and succinctly stated. It covers a greater amount of ground than one could conceive to be possible within its comparatively small

bulk, for it is a handy volume for the pocket. This combination is made possible by the wise plan adopted of putting the most important points in larger type, reserving the less important matter for smaller type. Nor is this end accomplished at the expense of legibility. It is quite sufficiently large to be read easily and the publishers as usual have done most excellent press-work. The proof-reading as was to be expected from the author's well-known carefulness is perfect so far as observed. It is profusely and judiciously illustrated by sketches, engravings and photographic reproductions. While some of the cuts are smaller than is generally considered desirable, yet with the limitations of space in view, it is almost hypercritical to mention the matter at all. The binding is dark and durable, well suited to possible hard usage, and the title cover neat and handsome.

As to the matter of the volume. No one who has not made the attempt can realize the difficulty of "writing down" to the comprehension of the non-medical, when treating of medical and surgical topics. There is a fatal facility in the use of technical terms which is difficult to unlearn, yet without so doing there is a very real danger of nullifying the object of the writer. After a rather careful examination of this work no instance is found where Captain Pilcher has used a strictly technical term without succinct and sufficient definition—which is high praise.

The book contains about 300 pages. Eighty of these are devoted to the outlines of anatomy and physiology. This section is in many respects admirable for the fullness and simplicity of its teachings. Any one who masters this section will have a really scientific conception of the body as a whole, and of the correlation of its component parts. Attention should be called to the excellent and clear way in which the nervous, circulatory and digestive systems are treated, under the headings, respectively, of the Central Power, the Repair Apparatus, and the Digestive Apparatus, the three most difficult subjects to explain to the satisfaction of the laity.

In the next forty pages the " Implements of Repair" come under consideration. Under this heading micro-organisms and their agency in causing disease, together with methods of antisepsis, pre-meditated and impromptu, are dealt with. Knots and bandages,

dressings and applications, fomentations and counter-irritants are described and fully illustrated.

After this necessary preliminary matter come the hundred and thirty-six pages devoted to accidents and emergencies, constituting the animus of the book. There is a valuable chapter entitled "How to Act at First," with reference to self-possession, crowding, use of stimulants, method of examination and malingering. In due order follows a consideration of the causes, symptoms and immediate treatment of bruises, burns, and frost bites. A full statement of the varieties, methods of healing and treatment of wounds is found, as also of bleeding internal and external, traumatic and idiopathic. In connection with the latter subject detailed and intelligible directions are given for the arrest of bleeding from individual arteries by finger pressure or the improvised tourniquet. Sprains, dislocations and fractures receive ample space, and it is pleasing to note that the author emphasizes the fact that it is not necessary for the layman to apply improvised splints at once, if a surgeon is within calling distance, and afterward notify the medical man. The contrary has happened more than once. Foreign bodies, unconsciousness, convulsions, asphyxia by drowning or otherwise, poisoning and poisoned wounds comprise other topics which receive due explanation. The causes and proofs of death are adequately presented.

The author manifests his interest in the military side of his profession by furnishing two very interesting chapters on "The Emergencies of the Battlefield," and "Carrying the Disabled." The former chapter deals with provisions for treatment, the hospital corps, uniforms, work on line of battle, dressing and ambulance stations, field and permanent hospitals. The latter chapter gives in detail the United States Army litter drill. The volume ends with some useful information in regard to disinfection, and ordinary sanitation.

Dr. Pilcher is to be congratulated on having produced probably the best book on the subject yet published.

GLENTWORTH R. BUTLER.

DISEASES OF THE EYE. A Handbook of Ophthalmic Practice. By G. E. DE SCHWEINITZ, M. D. Royal 8vo, pp. 600. Philadelphia: W. B. Saunders.

This, the latest text-book on ophthalmology, is a handsomely printed volume of convenient size and neat appearance. Those who would ask if another such text-book be really required to supplement the very excellent ones so recently published, may find their answer in perusing this. It is clearly written, explicit, and gives the principles which govern ophthalmic practice of to-day in a manner which shows its author to be familiar with the needs of students and therefore of practitioners, for the latter naturally turn first to their old text-books in time of need. The subject-matter is conveniently arranged and comprehensively treated. The chapters on general optical principles, the theory and use of the ophthalmoscope, normal and abnormal refraction, the mechanism of diplopia and the causes of squint were written by Dr. James Wallace, and show him to be thoroughly conversant with his subject. His style is, however, somewhat concise, and at times might prove confusing to a beginner, as when he says that rays of light diverging from the principal focus of a convex lens after passing through that lens "converge at an infinite distance." In speaking of the indirect method of ophthalmoscopic examination the statement is made that in myopia the convex lens usually employed may be dispensed with in the higher grades, "though it is still an advantage because it increases the size of the image." Those who are familiar with the use of the ophthalmoscope will of course see that the area of the retina included in the ophthalmoscopic picture must be here meant, but to the student who is not quite sure of his ground such statements are very misleading. The chapter on the external examination of the eye is a very good one, and in it is given a very complete schedule which may be followed wholly or in part. Here as elsewhere in the book stress is laid upon the importance of a recognition of the general bodily conditions. The various instruments and manipulative procedures necessary in such external examination are clearly described, and more recent aids are not omitted, such as the use of fluorescein for the detection of foreign bodies or corneal ulcers. The methods of testing the

extra-ocular muscles are clearly given, and the terminology proposed by Stevens for defects in the balance of such muscles adopted. But little is said of the ophthalmometer of Javal and Sehioz, so much lauded at present, beyond a description of the instrument. It is, however, one which is scarcely likely to be found outside the office or clinic of the specialist. The use of a mydriatic to reveal latent refractive errors is advised up to the age of fifty. In correcting errors in children too young to read dependence is placed upon the ophthalmoscope and retinoscopy, but no preference expressed. The different theories of the development of myopia are clearly given, and for young people with good vision the full correction of the myopia when moderate (under 5 D.) is advised. The use of fully correcting glasses for everything except close work is recommended for myopia less than 8-10 D. The chapter on refraction closes with some valuable hints on the verification of the accuracy of glasses as furnished and the proper adjustment of spectacles, a subject to which, as a rule, far too little attention is given.

The chapters on diseases of the eyelids, conjunctiva, cornea and sclera are excellent. The clinical pictures are carefully drawn, and in treatment not only the older and well-recognized methods but also more recent suggestions are considered. In general, however, there is a lack of expression of the author's individual opinion or preference. Follicular conjunctivitis is treated as distinct from trachoma, the former being "characterized by tumescent lymphatic follicles," and the latter by the "development of trachomatous nodules which should be regarded as new formations." In the operative treatment of trachoma squeezing out the granulations is favored rather than grattage, excision of the fold or the use of the galvano-cautery. Pyoktanin finds little favor except in suppurative disease of the tear passages. In perforating ulcers of the cornea with extensive prolapse of iris, after the ordinary efforts at reposition have failed, the author recommends excision of the prolapse in recent cases with the use of a conjunctival flap to cover the opening, a method suggested by Pinto.

The diseases of the iris, ciliary body, choroid, retina, optic nerve, vitreous and lens are clearly and methodically considered. As a rule the general features of a disease both pathological and clinical

are given, and then the more special forms with the treatment appropriate to each. A very valuable feature is the extensive reference made to the more general bodily condition causing or accompanying the ocular disease, and the relations of ophthalmology to general medicine are constantly kept in view in the treatment advised. The claim is made that operative treatment is necessary in practically all cases of glaucoma to check the disease. While this is unfortunately only too often the case, the experience is not so uncommon that the myotics are of permanent benefit. Iridectomy is the operation advised, but little reliance being placed upon sclerotomy, a good enumeration of the essentials of such an iridectomy being given. Both eyes should, in the author's opinion be bandaged after the operation, that on the operated eye to be retained until the restoration of the anterior chamber. The prophylactic use of eserine in the non-operated eye is recommended. The chapters on the various forms of amblyopia are excellent, and the diagnostic aids to localization of the lesion in hemianopsia are clearly given, including the more general symptoms of hemianesthesia, hemiplegia and ataxic movements. The anomalies of the ocular movement, the diseases of the lachrymal apparatus and those of the orbit are next considered, and the book closes with a description of the technique of the operations ordinarily performed about the eye. This chapter begins with explicit directions as to antisepsis, the cleansing of instruments, preparation of the patient, etc. As elsewhere in the book there is here a noticeable avoidance of expression of individual opinion. The different methods are described and the choice left to the reader. In iridectomy no mention is made of any other instrument for making the section than the angular keratome, whereas in many cases the Graefe cataract knife may prove the more manageable instrument. A bandage is advised after cataract as after iridectomy. Graduated tenotomes are described, but the author says "there seems little doubt that a good deal of injudicious 'snipping of the tendons of the ocular muscles' has been practised."

On the whole the book is one of the best of its scope, and the author is to be congratulated on the excellence with which his purpose has been carried out. May its success equal its merits.

RICHMOND LENNOX.

GENITO-URINARY AND VENEREAL DISEASES. A manual for students and practitioners. By CHARLES H. CHETWOOD, M. D. Philadelphia: Lea Brothers & Co.

This little book, covering the essentials of genito-urinary diseases, belongs to that series of books which has lately become so dear to the medical student, the quiz compend: in which the various subjects are presented in the form of questions and answers. However childish the method may seem, the book contains in an available form the practical information, to find which we may read many pages in more elaborate works. It sets forth that which is being taught to-day in our medical colleges, and practiced in our hospitals and dispensaries.

The book is illustrated, and not too large to be carried in the pocket. It bears the evidence of having been compiled by a man well versed in his subject.

JAMES P. WARDESSER.

THE STUDENT'S HANDBOOK OF SURGICAL OPERATIONS. By FREDERICK TREVES, F. R. C. S. Philadelphia: Lea Brothers & Co., 1892.

This very excellent work needs no greater recommendation than the prestige which its writer's name bestows upon it. The author, who has given to the student the "Applied Anatomy," and the three volumes constituting the "Manual of Surgery," needs no one to speak the assurance, that, the "Handbook of Surgical Operations" shall meet with anything other than a welcome reception. The book is abridged from the author's exhaustive work, the "Manual of Operative Surgery," and embodies in a condensed form the essentials and technique of the most commonly performed operations. The general principles of operative surgery, the consideration of the merits of various surgical procedures, the anatomy of the parts, the after-treatment, the description of instruments, and the subjects of mortality and results, are not discussed. Simply the operations themselves are dealt with.

The book is thoroughly illustrated, and the subjects well classified. The operations are considered with reference to the seat of application. The whole subject divides itself into fourteen sections. Beginning with Ligature of Arteries, Operations upon Nerves, Amputations,

Operations on the Bones and Joints, it continues through the category, and closes with sections on Operations on the Rectum, Operations on the Head and Spine, and Operations on the Thorax and Breast. Under these headings are the sub-divisions, in which are set forth in the admirable style of Mr. Treves—lucidly, concisely, and yet completely—the procedures in the various operations.

The large amount of information in this small book renders it a valuable acquisition not only for the medical student, but for the practical surgeon as well: nor can it be too highly commended for the rare good judgment which has been exercised in the selection of the operative procedures to be described.

JAMES P. WARBASSE.

A NEW PRONOUNCING DICTIONARY OF MEDICINE. By JOHN M. KEATING, M. D., LL. D., and HENRY HAMILTON. With the collaboration of J. CHALMERS DA COSTA, M. D., and FREDERICK A. PACKARD, M. D. Philadelphia: W. B. Saunders. 1892.

In 1839 the elder Dunglison wrote in the preface to the second edition of his dictionary, that, "the present edition will be found to contain many hundred more terms than the first, and to have experienced numerous additions and modifications." Succeeding publications of dictionaries must have followed this example, or have been inadequate to the demands of a growing and developing science. Of the past decade may it be said, that, the demand upon the lexicographer for new words, and the necessity for eliminating those which the progress of science has made obsolete, have become especially urgent. The amplification of the nomenclature has become so great that the frequent revising of existing dictionaries of medicine is a necessity, and the issuing of new dictionaries not unjustifiable.

The work which has just been placed in our hands commends itself as a pronouncing dictionary worthy of the attention of the medical profession. The question of the pronunciation of medical terms has received careful attention. A number of the professors of Latin in the Universities of this country have been consulted as collaborators in the work; although they have offered no remedy for the deplorable state of our mongrel system of medical pronunciation,

which distinguishes the English medical terminology, and that of the United States, from the rest of the scientific world, and impedes the establishment of an universal scientific language. Neither the continental nor the English method of pronunciation has been accepted, but, according to the preface, "we have, after careful thought, followed the custom of the majority of the English speaking physicians, and, though sanctioning both methods as coming from high authority, adopted in large part the anglicized pronunciation without hard and fast rules."

The definitions are, for the most part, clear and concise. The etymology of the words has been carefully traced. The book contains many recently coined words; and numerous words, now obsolete, but still printed in other dictionaries, are omitted. It is difficult to understand, however, why such words as endothelioma, aerobie, anaerobie, dicephalus, diplocœpus, eehondrosis, haematoblast, neuroblast, nigrosin, and osteoclast, which, among a promiscuous lot of words were looked for, have been omitted; and why place has been given to such terms as immersed, illusion, immobility, impetus, injury, inflated, freeze, flame, classification, rare, etc., which have no especial connection with the medico-scientific vocabulary.

A valuable appendix of eighty-two pages is added, which is given to weights and measures; diameters of the female pelvis and foetal head, with illustrations; a table of cardiac murmurs; charts of the nerve distribution of the various plexuses; Starr's table of localization of functions of the segments of the spinal cord; a table giving the chief characteristics of the principal bacteria; ptomaines and leucomaines; an extensive dose table; incompatibles; a list of poisons with symptoms and antidotes; a list of the newer drugs, with physical properties, uses, etc.; preparations and solutions used in antiseptic surgery; and other minor subjects. The work is well printed in large type, on strong heavy paper. The evidences of the care and labor which has been devoted to its preparation are visible on its every page.

JAMES P. WARBASSE.

REVIEWS OF BOOKS.

CURE RADICALE DES HERNIES AVEC UNE ETUDE STATISTIQUE DE 275 OPERATIONS. PAR LE DR. JUST LUCAS-CHAMPIONNIERE. pp. 724.
Paris: Rueff & Cie, 1892.

This is the second edition of a work by the same author published in 1886. In the introduction it is stated this "this is not the work of a day, but is the fruit of eleven years of investigation, during which I have operated 275 times for the cure of non-strangulated herniae and have patiently established and perfected the method which I advocate." "This is not an already recognized proceeding for the cure of hernia that I have adopted, it is a personal method. I have not ignored any of those elements that have been utilized by numerous surgeons who have sought to cure hernia, but the mathematical perfection of certain points and a number of new details in the conduct of the operation constitute the method which is mine."

The first chapter is devoted to a discussion of the question of whether a radical operation should or should not be performed and the author reaches the conclusion that "among young subjects herniae should be generally operated upon." There is no indication here of what is included in the term "young subjects."

A study of the table reveals the fact that a considerable number of children have been subjected to the operation and if this assertion is intended to apply to them we should feel disposed to dissent most emphatically from the conclusion. It is well recognized by the majority of surgeons that mechanical treatment is especially beneficial and often curative in the young and to submit them to an operation without first trying carefully and systematically to overcome the deformity by this means seems to us an unwarranted procedure.

In the second chapter the dangers of the radical cure are discussed and the statement is made that this danger is very slight, so

slight that it is almost impossible to estimate it. Chapter three deals with the efficacy of the radical cure and the results of the author's operations. Here he recognizes the curability, *even by bandages*, among young patients, but says "there is greater reason for admitting this curability by an operation." Out of 266 cases he has observed 101 after a lapse of some time (29 from four to six months, and 72 after more than six months), among these 14 had recurrence of the hernia. The argument which is advanced that these fourteen recurrences should not be considered as relating to the 101 cases, but rather to the total number of 266 reviewed in this chapter, seems to us fallacious and ridiculous. It would be interesting to note by what process of reasoning he is able to arrive at the conclusion that there were no further cases of recurrence among the 165 cases not observed. In bad cases he estimates that the recurrence is equal to from four to five per cent., while in good cases it is almost nothing and he "considers that a subject who has submitted to a radical cure suffers less chance of recurrence of the hernia as a result of a strain than those whose abdominal walls have always been intact." In regard to the employment of a truss or bandage following the operation the following rules are laid down :

For men who have had a large hernia with very bad (weak?) abdominal walls a truss should be employed.

For men who have had a portion of the hernia composed of the large intestine a truss should also be employed.

In the vast majority when the operation has been completely successful it is best that they should wear over the cicatrix and the hernial region a pad with a girdle without a spring. This apparatus, which has nothing in common with the ordinary truss, protects the region of the operation from great shocks and allows the cicatrices to complete their consolidation without danger.

After a good operation a truss is useless.

In the opinion of the author only two of the many methods for the radical cure that have been published are worthy of particular mention. The methods of Macewen and of Bassini. He does not much believe in the efficacy of the folding back of the sac which constitutes the defense to the hernial region in the former case, and in

order to be certain of its success it is necessary to carry the dissection very high, even into the abdomen when it corresponds to his own method. In the case of Bassini's operation he does not think much of the attempt to reconstruct an inguinal canal, but by opening the canal freely and carrying the dissection of the serous membrane very high a condition is obtained quite analogous to the one recommended by the author, a very complete dissection of the sac and a very large cicatrix; this is the reason for Bassini's success.

He says, "If I have not adopted the proceedings of these surgeons it is because I have found serious faults in their methods." "My method has the same advantages as theirs and other advantages as well."

The main points in Lucas-Championniere's method are the freeing of the sac, first from adhesions on its outer side, then of any that may unite the true hernial protrusion to the inner wall, then the opening of the sac and the reduction of the hernia. The sac must be freed well up to and beyond its point of exit from the abdominal cavity. It is then drawn well down and two or more sutures passed about the highest point within reach. If the neck of the sac is small two sutures are sufficient, but if it is large three or more may be required. These sutures are passed by means of an aneurism needle and the loop of the thread is cut leaving two sutures through the sac. These are then given a single twist and tied. If three sutures are employed each of them is united to the other by a twist, but if more than three are employed they are used in sets of two. That is, two are passed, twisted and tied, then the needle carries two others through the sac which are twisted on one another and the nearest free end is carried through the suture hole made by the nearer one of the first pair. After the neck has become thoroughly tied, the sac is cut off and the stump allowed to retract. The natural retraction of the stretched membrane carries the stump inside the abdominal opening and some distance from it.

In closing the fibro-muscular tissues it is important to obtain a strong cicatrix, and the strongest cicatrices are those which have resulted from union by first intention. Buried sutures are employed not to unite the pillars of the ring in the proper meaning of the word,

but to group and fuse together all the soft parts which can make a mass in the region and defend it against new attacks.

For this purpose a needle threaded with catgut takes up all the soft parts which constitute the walls of the canal, including all those which have been cut and torn. Sometimes the same suture after having been tied is passed again around another portion of the soft parts and again tied. Small but very strong masses are thus formed which contribute to strengthen the region. The barrier is completed by suturing to these deep tissues the cellular tissue above the muscular wall. This suture runs the whole length of the cord. This is considered a very important step. After the operation careful and firmly applied compression should be employed.

The author further applies his method to all varieties of herniae, but we have given enough to convey an idea of his method. The book as an exposition of Lucas-Championniere's method of curing hernia is admirable, as a treatise on hernia, however, it is useless. No other methods are described and no credit is given to other investigators, the author insisting throughout the work that his method is perfectly satisfactory and that it overcomes all the imperfections in all other operations. As a claim for personal recognition the book is valuable, as a scientific exposition of the treatment of hernia it is seriously defective.

SAMUEL LLOYD.

THE READY REFERENCE HANDBOOK OF DISEASES OF THE SKIN. By
GEORGE THOMAS JACKSON, M. D. 8vo. pp. 553. Philadelphia:
Lea Brothers & Co. 1892.

Medical literature during the past decade has been considerably enriched by works treating of dermatology. In probably no branch of medicine have greater strides been made than in this.

In France, Kaposi's *Hautkrankheiten*, one of the most standard of text-books was translated into French ten years ago by Besnier and Doyon. Last year a second edition appeared with notes and comments by the translators, but the literature on dermatological subjects had increased to so great an extent in the time intervening between the first and second editions, that the number of pages devoted to these notes far outnumber those in the translated portion.

Another noticeable work, which also appeared in France this year, is Brocq's *Traitément des Maladies de la Peau*, a most comprehensive treatise of 900 pages and clearly defining the views of the present French school upon the subject.

Leloir and Vidal are also revising their *Symptomatology and Histology of Skin Diseases*, which when completed is intended to cover the entire field of dermatology, but dealing only with its histological pathology and symptomatology. Three parts have been issued so far, each part containing six plates in colors of sections of skin. The book is being translated into German by Eduard Schiff of Vienna and is published simultaneously with the French, the plates in both being from the same stones.

Probably the most magnificent atlas on dermatology is the International Atlas of Rare Skin Diseases, published simultaneously in Germany, France, England, and the United States, under the joint editorship of P. G. Unna, H. Leloir, Malcolm Morris and L. A. Duhring. Only two parts are issued yearly, each part containing three plates. One of the plates in the last number issued is of interest to the surgeons, representing a case of chronic glanders.

In Germany among the large number of works which have recently been issued are those of Max Joseph and Behrend of Berlin; a small text-book by P. Eichhoff; Lesser's Treatise on Skin and Genito-Urinary Diseases, which rapidly ran up to a sixth edition within five years; a revision of Kaposi and a book on treatment by Hans Hebra.

In England, Crocker, Anderson and Jamieson are among the most prominent of the many authors who have recently written text-books, and in Amsterdam there is in course of publication an atlas of photographs by Prof. Van Haren Noman.

Nor has this country been at all behind those of Europe in adding to the general literature on this subject in the way of text-books. We have recently had the third edition of Duhring; two editions of Robinson; three volumes of photographs by Fox; Pissard's superb plates; Morrow's and Taylor's Atlases; a new edition of Hyde and the second of Shoemaker, all of these being books which deal with

dermatology quite fully, while among smaller manuals may be mentioned those of Bulkley, Cutler and Rohé.

The last manual to appear and one of the most admirable of them all is the *Handbook* by Dr. Jackson.

The book is divided into two parts, the first of which deals with the anatomy and physiology of the skin in a brief but extremely comprehensive manner. The various lesions of the skin are next considered and the pages devoted to the general means employed in making a diagnosis are among the best that have ever been written on this subject.

Under the heading of "Therapeutic Notes" the author describes the various remedies which have been introduced into dermatological practice as substitutes for the greasy substances so long used as excipients for local applications. Among those mentioned are traumatincin, the various pastes and mulls, gelatine preparations and medicated soaps. Bassorin and Plasment are spoken of very highly. Of drugs, anthrarin, creolin, dermatol, euphene, the aniline dyes, gallacetophenone, ichthiol, resorein, thiol, tumenol, are all described. Of aristol, the author says, "I have made many comparative tests with it and older remedies in treating ulcers, and have found in the great majority of cases that the old friends were the best."

To the student nothing is more puzzling at times than the proper pronunciation of the many technical terms used in dermatology, making recourse to a dictionary a matter of frequent necessity. Dr. Jackson has overcome this difficulty by introducing the scheme of pronunciation used in Foster's *Dictionary*, a feature which we would be pleased to see adopted by other authors in their text-books.

Four of the most interesting pages of the book are devoted to "Some Dermatological Don'ts."

The second part is devoted to the consideration of the separate diseases of the skin and their treatment. While the space devoted to each article is necessarily short, it is worthy of comment that the amount of information packed into the space is remarkably large.

After giving a definition of the disease, the symptoms are detailed; then the aetiology, the differential diagnosis, and lastly, such plans of treatment as the author in his extensive practice has found

of most benefit, and also such plans as other authorities recommend.

Dr. Jackson says in his preface: "No attempt has been made to discuss debatable questions. Hence pathology and aetiology do not receive as full consideration as symptomatology, diagnosis and treatment," and while the pathological changes are briefly described and differences of opinion, where such exist, are mentioned, the aetiology is nevertheless quite full and comprehensive, all the views of different authorities being considered.

Dr. Jackson does not accept as proved the conclusions of many of the French school and especially Besnier, that *Lupus erythematosus* is allied to *Lu. vulgaris* and is to be regarded as also a tuberculosis of the skin, holding that the fact that some cases have reacted to tuberculin injections is not sufficient, and further proof is necessary. *Lupus vulgaris* he regards as a tuberculosis cutis.

The so-called molluscum corpuscle is regarded as a changed epithelium cell and not the parasite—the psorosperm of Darier or the gregarine of Neisser. The theory that Paget's Disease of the Nipple is due to these "psorosperms" is not accepted.

In the treatment of epithelioma the author regards with favor Schwimmer's plan of curetting and the subsequent application of a 33½ per cent. pyrogallie acid ointment.

Erysipelas is regarded as an infectious disease and caused by the specific microorganism of Fehlheisen, although the possibility of its occurrence without infection by the microorganism he says must be entertained. In its treatment a large number of remedies are mentioned. Tincture of the chloride of iron, pilocarpin and jaborandi internally; externally, the old lead and opium wash, resorcin, ichthylol, Duckworth's chalk and lard ointment and the Kraske-Riedel method by scarification and subsequent dressing with bichloride solution.

In alopecia prematura where no evident disease of the scalp is or has been present heredity is considered as the chief aetiological factor; next to that, improper hygiene of the scalp. Of the symptomatic alopecias four varieties are described, the most frequent of which is the *A. furfuracea seu pityrodes*, or dandruff, and in dealing further with the subject under the captions of *Seborrhœa* and *Eczema seborrhoicum*

its contagiousness is strongly noted and possible parasitic origin spoken of. On the mooted point regarding the aetiology of Alopecia areata Dr. Jackson considers that the advocates of the parasitic theory have not yet proved their case, and inclines to the view that it is a neurotic disease.

The diseases of the skin are arranged in alphabetical order as the author thinks no satisfactory system of classification has yet been made. While this is relatively true it is not absolutely so, and it seems to us that for the student (for whom this manual is especially intended, we take it), a classification as a working basis is important if not absolutely essential. It groups certain diseases under certain headings and shows the relationship of one disease to another so far as our present knowledge goes. To the physician versed in dermatology the alphabetical arrangement facilitates ready reference, but the beginner is apt to be puzzled by reading, for instance, *eczema seborrhoicum*, then *elephantiasis* and following that *epithelioma*.

The book contains fifty illustrations scattered throughout its pages and a chromo-lithograph of a case of *Xanthelasma*. Numerous foot-notes refer the reader to the various authorities quoted.

GEORGE D. HOLSTEN.

ANNUAL OF THE UNIVERSAL MEDICAL SCIENCES. Edited by CHARLES E. SAJOUS, M. D., and seventy associate editors, Philadelphia: F. A. Davis Co., 1892.

The annual for 1892 compares most favorably with those of preceding years.

We are informed that next year will witness several changes. In order to compass this and at the same time extend the circulation in Europe, Dr. Sajous has changed his headquarters to Paris, with the expectation of remaining three years.

One improvement that is suggested is the addition of the address to the name of every author quoted. The annual will also be published in French.

A work of this kind cannot be dealt with in the same way as most books, but must be examined in the light of its purpose. Nor is any single observer entirely capable of criticising it as a whole,

although he may be fully able to speak authoritatively of portions of the work. Its purpose is we think fully carried out. It is intended as an epitome of the work done in all branches of medicine, a compilation in little space of all the advanced work of the year. This is undoubtedly well sustained and the work is so much more complete and so well done that it stands far in advance of all the other annuals upon which we formerly relied for this information. The work can never take the place of independent investigation and compilation, but as an aid during the preparation of an article after this investigation is complete and as an index to the literature of the subject, it is simply invaluable.

It is almost impossible to select from such a work portions for criticism, but in this instance we naturally turn to the sections on surgery.

In *Cerebral Surgery*, by John H. Packard, no remarkable advances are noted, but the increase in the number of cases operated upon adds materially to the general knowledge and will materially aid in the final conclusions in regard to many of the procedures now under consideration. Some points made by Drouboix in fractures of the base of the skull are worthy of notice—he says that on examining the palate, it will be seen that the uvula is drawn to one side and that the other half of the soft palate is flaccid; the attempt to swallow a mouthful of liquid will be attended with difficulty and provoke coughing. Deductions may also be drawn from the anatomical relations of the nerves passing through the substance of the bone the impairment of their function indicating the seat of fracture in any given case. The escape of subarachnoid fluid from the ear is considered very rare; in order that it may occur, there must be an opening in the serous sheath of the auditory and facial nerves, at its point of reflection in the depth of the internal auditory meatus, and a channel must be formed thence, by the fracture, to the external meatus. When a similar flow occurs through the nose, it is probably due to a fracture of the ethmoid with tearing of the arachnoid sheath of the olfactory nerves. Dr. Packard also contributes the article on Diseases and Injuries of Arteries and Veins, and the one on Surgical Dressings and Antiseptics.

In the article on Thoracic Surgery, by J. McFadden Gaston, several remarkable cases of extensive injury to the ribs and pleura are reported. The general conclusion in regard to Bronchotomy through the chest walls continues unfavorable.

The surgery of the abdomen is thoroughly reviewed by J. William White. An interesting series of experiments are quoted from F. B. Robinson of Ohio, and F. T. Paul of England, in circular enterorrhaphy, and their methods are worthy of study and further experimentation. The discussion of appendicitis would indicate a tendency to "call a halt" in the general plan of operating, and to select the cases carefully before proceeding to the removal of the appendix. Treves of London, Rand of Brooklyn, and Lange of New York, are quoted as objecting, and to this list may be added the author of this section, Dr. White, if his notes fully express his views on the question. Dr. White also contributes the section on Syphilis, assisted by Edward Martin of Philadelphia.

In the article on Amputations, Excisions, and Plastic Surgery, Diseases of the Bones and Joints, by P. S. Conner and Leonard Freeman, Von Essen's statistics of amputations are interesting in showing the general improvement in the mortality in these cases since the beginning of the antiseptic era. A method of amputation by Neudörfer, attracts the attention; he determines the point where a bone is to be divided and then makes an incision running in the long axis of the limb, extending through the soft parts and the periosteum. The incision should be on the anterior or lateral surface of the limb to avoid the larger nerves and vessels. In the arm it should be six centimetres long, in the thigh twelve. The periosteum is then thoroughly loosened from the bone which is divided by a chisel as in an osteotomy; the lower fragment is luxated through the periosteum which is stripped from the bone and the soft parts are divided in one plane with a knife or a strong pair of scissors, the intimate relation of the tissues remaining undisturbed. The vessels are then ligatured, the periosteum is united longitudinally and transversely and the wound in the soft parts is closed by buried sutures and the skin by a continuous suture.

Diseases of the Rectum and Anus are treated by Chas. B. Kelsey of New York, Genito-Urinary Surgical Diseases, by E. L. Keyes and Eugene Fuller of New York, Orthopaedic Surgery, by Lewis A. Sayre and Reginald H. Sayre of New York, Fractures and Dislocations, by Lewis A. Stimson of New York, Surgical Myoses and Tumors, by Ernest Laplace of Philadelphia, Surgical Diseases, by Louis McLane Tiffany, and Ridgely B. Warfield of Baltimore, Traumatic Neuroses, by J. A. Booth of New York, and Anæsthetics, by J. M. Barton and J. Lewis Borsch of Philadelphia complete the volume.

SAMUEL LLOYD (New York).